

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7035

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 SEOUL 7728

EXDIS

TOKYO FOR PRESIDENTIAL PARTY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (FORD, GERALD R.)

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL VISIT: JOINT COMMUNIQUE

REF: (A) STATE 252406; (B) STATE 252407

1. VICE FONMIN LHO SHIN-YONG AND AMERICAN BUREAU DIRECTOR LEE SANG-OK CALLED IN DCM AND ACTING POL COUNSELOR LATE EVENING NOV 18 TO PRESENT NEW KOREAN VERSION OF DRAFT COMMUNIQUE. LHO ASSURED DCM THAT ROKG HAD CAREFULLY CONSIDERED RATIONALE (REF A) BEHIND TONE OF US DRAFT, WAS SYMPATHETIC TO US PURPOSES, AND WAS WILLING TO WORK FROM US LANGUAGE. ROKG HOWEVER FELT CERTAIN REVISIONS WERE NECESSARY TO MEET ITS OWN REQUIREMENTS.

2. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ROK DRAFT, AS AMENDED IN COURSE OF DISCUSSION, WHICH CONFEREES AGREED WITHOUT COMMITMENT TO REFER BACK TO RESPECTED SUPERIORS FOR CONSIDERATION. CHANGES LARGELY REPRESENT ROK REQUESTS. APPROPRIATE COMMENT APPEARS IN PARENTHESES. PARAS ARE NUMBERED FOR BEGIN TEX:

1. AT THE INVITATION OF PRESIDENT PARK CHUNG HEE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD OF THE UNITED STATES VISITED THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA ON NOVEMBER 22
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AND 23, 1974, TO EXCHANGE VIEWS ON THE CURRENT INTERNATIONAL

SITUATION AND TO DISCUSS MATTERS OF MUTUAL INTEREST AND CONCERN TO THE TWO NATIONS. (NOTE: NO CHANGE)

2. DURING THE VISIT THE TWO PRESIDENTS HELD DISCUSSIONS ON TWO OCCASIONS. PRESENT AT THESE MEETINGS WERE PRIME MINISTER KIM CHONG PIL, SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER, FOREIGN MINISTER KIM DONG JO, PRESIDENTIAL SECRETARY GENERAL KIM CHONG YOM, AMBASSADOR RICHARD L. SNEIDER, AMBASSADOR HAHM PYONG CHOON AND OTHER HIGH OFFICIALS OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS. PRESIDENT FORD ALSO VISITED AMERICAN FORCES STATIONED IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA. (NOTE: ADDITION OF KIM CHONG YOM)

3. PRESIDENT FORD LAID A WREATH ON THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER. HE ALSO VISITED THE GRAVE OF MADAME PARK CHUNG HEE AND EXPRESSED HIS DEEPEST PERSONAL CONDOLENCES TO PRESIDENT PARK ON HER TRAGIC AND UNTIMELY DEATH. (NOTE: ADDITION OF SENTENCE ON UNKNOWN SOLDIER TOMB.)

4. THE TWO PRESIDENTS REAFFIRMED THE STRONG BONDS OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THEIR TWO COUNTRIES. THEY AGREED TO CONTINUE THE CLOSE COOPERATION AND REGULAR CONSULTATION ON SECURITY MATTERS AND OTHER SUBJECTS OF MUTUAL INTEREST WHICH HAS CHARACTERIZED THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES. (NOTE: THIS PARA MOVED FROM END OF US DRAFT TO THIS POSITION. KOREANS INSIST THIS IS TRADITIONAL PLACE FOR PARA OF THIS NATURE. "STRONG" AND "MUTUAL INTEREST" REPRESENT WORDING CHANGES.)

5. THE TWO PRESIDENTS TOOK NOTE OF SIGNIFICANT POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CHANGES IN THE SITUATION IN ASIA IN RECENT YEARS. THEY RECOGNIZED THAT THE ALLIED COUNTRIES IN THE AREA ARE INCREASINGLY STRONG AND PROSPEROUS AND ARE MAKING INCREASING CONTRIBUTION TO THEIR SECURITY AS WELL AS TO THAT OF THE REGION. PRESIDENT FORD EXPLAINED THAT THE UNITED STATES, AS A PACIFIC POWER, IS VITALLY INTERESTED IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC AND WILL CONTINUE ITS BEST EFFORT TO ENSURE

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THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF THE REGION. PRESIDENT PARK EXPRESSED HIS UNDERSTANDING AND FULL SUPPORT FOR UNITED STATES POLICIES DIRECTED TOWARD THESE ENDS. (NOTE: FIRST SENTENCE OMITS CLAUSE RE AGREEMENT THAT PROSPECTS FOR PEACE IN REGION WERE GENERALLY IMPROVED. KOREANS INSIST THAT IN LIGHT RECENT NORTH KOREAN ACTIVITIES, THEIR GOVT CANNOT SUBSCRIBE PUBLICLY TO SUCH STATEMENT. AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION, CONFEREES

AGREED IT PREFERABLE TO CONSIDER SIMPLY DROPPING THIS REFERENCE, RATHER THAN TO ATTEMPT TO FIND MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE LANGUAGE. KOREANS ALSO POINTED OUT THAT THEY AT LEAST ARE ALREADY MAKING INCREASING CONTRIBUTIONS TO SECURITY AND REFER THIS FORMULATION TO THAT SUGGESTED US DRAFT.)

6. PRESIDENT PARK DESCRIBED THE EFFORTS BEING MADE BY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO ESTABLISH A DIALOGUE WITH NORTH KOREA, DESIGNED TO REDUCE TENSIONS AND TO LEAD EVENTUALLY TO THE PEACEFUL UNIFICATION OF KOREA. PRESIDENT PARK AFFIRMED THE INTENTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO CONTINUE TO PURSUE THE DIALOGUE WITH THE NORTH DESPITE THE FAILURE OF THE NORTH KOREAN AUTHORITIES TO RESPOND WITH SINCERITY THUS FAR. PRESIDENT FORD GAVE ASSURANCE THAT THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT THESE EFFORTS BY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE CONSTRUCTIVE INITIATIVES BY THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA WOULD MEET WITH POSITIVE RESPONSES BY ALL CONCERNED. (NOTE: KOREANS INSIST ON SOME REFERENCE IN THIS PARA TO SLACK OF "SINCERITY" ON PART OF NORTH KOREA. THIS LANGUAGE AGREED ON FOR PREFERENCE ONLY AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION.)

7. THE TWO PRESIDENTS DISCUSSED THE CURRENT UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY CONSIDERATION OF THE KOREAN QUESTION. THEY AGREED ON THE IMPORTANCE OF FAVORABLE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACTION ON THE DRAFT RESOLUTION INTRODUCED BY THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER MEMBER COUNTRIES. BOTH EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY WOULD BASE ITS CONSIDERATION OF THE KOREAN QUESTION ON A RECOGNITION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THE SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS WHICH HAVE PRESERVED PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA
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FOR MORE THAN TWO DECADES. (NOTE: CHANGE IN LAST SENTENCE CLARIFIES PURPOSE.)

8. PRESIDENT PARK EXPLAINED IN DETAIL THE SITUATION ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA, AND DESCRIBED THE THREAT TO PEACE AND STABILITY OF HOSTILE ACTS BY NORTH KOREA, EXEMPLIFIED MOST RECENTLY BY THE CONSTRUCTION OF AN UNDERGROUND TUNNEL INSIDE THE SOUTHERN SECTOR OF THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE. PRESIDENT FORD AGREED WITH PRESIDENT PARK ON THE NECESSITY OF CONTINUING VIGILANCE TO ENSURE PEACE AND SECURITY ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA. (NOTE: THIS IS NEW PARA WHICH KOREANS INSISTED US SIDE CONSIDER. KOREANS ARE MAKING MUCH OF RECENT TUNNEL INCIDENT AND PARA REFLECTS, OF COURSE, THEIR CONTINUING AND ACTIVE CONCERN WITH NORTH KOREAN HOSTILITY.

LANGUAGE IS CONSIDERABLY WATERED DOWN FROM DRAFT PRESENTED BY KOREANS WHICH WOULD HAVE INCLUDED REFERENCE TO CONTINUING ACTS OF AGRESSION AND EXPRESSION OF GRAVE CONCERN BY PRESIDENT FORD.)

9. THE TWO PRESIDENTS AGREED THAT THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA FORCES AND AMERICAN FORCES STATIONED IN KOREA MUST MAINTAIN A HIGH DEGREE OF STRENGTH AND READINESS IN ORDER TO DETER AGRESSION. PRESIDENT FORD REAFFIRMED THE DETERMINATION OF THE UNITED STATES TO RENDER PROMPT AND EFFECTIVE ASSISTANCE TO REPEL ARMED ATTACK AGAINST THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MUTUAL DEFENSE TREATY OF 1954 BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND THE UNITED STATES. IN THIS CONNECTION, PRESIDENT FORD

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ACTION SS-25

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INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7036

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ASSURED PRESIDENT PARK THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS NO PLAN TO REDUCE THE PRESENT LEVEL OF UNITED STATES FORCES IN KOREA. (NOTE: LAST SENTENCE US DRAFT CAUSED KOREANS CONSIDERABLE HEARTBURN ON GROUNDS THAT WORDS "NOW" AND "SIGNIFICANT" WOULD AROUSE SEPCLATION ABOUT US INTENTIONS ON TROOP LEVELS. AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION CONFEREES AGREED TO SUBMIT FORMULATION CONTAINED ABOVE, WHICH IS SAME AS USED IN RECENT SCM COMMUNIQUE.)

10.THE TWO PRESIDENTS DISCUSSED THE PROGRESS OF

THE MODERNIZATION PROGRAM FOR THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA ARMED FORCES AND AGREED THAT THE PROGRAM IS OF MAJOR IMPORTANCE TO THE SECURITY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND PEACE ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA. PRESIDENT FORD TOOK NOTE OF THE INCREASING SHARE OF THE DEFENSE BURDEN WHICH THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA IS ABLE AND WILLING TO ASSUME AND AFFIRMED THE READINESS OF THE UNITED STATES TO CONTINUE TO RENDER APPROPRIATE SUPPORT TO THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF DEFENSE INDUSTRIES IN THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA. (NOTE: KOREAN DIFFICULTY WITH US FORMULATION FOR THIS PARAGRAPH CENTERED ON POINT THAT IT IS NOT MOD PROGRAM, BUT IMPLEMENTATION OF PROGRAM WHICH IS IMPORTANT TO SECURITY AND PEACE. KOREANS THEREFORE INSISTED ON CONSIDERATION OF ABOVE FORMULATION AND EXPRESSION OF CONFIDENTIAL

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READINESS OF US TO RENDER SUPPORT TO DEFENSE INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT. BELIEVE WORD "APPROPRIATE" ADEQUATELY PROTECTS OUR POSITION. LAST SENTENCE US DRAFT UNNECESSARY IF KOREAN VIEW ON IMPLEMENTATION IS ACCEPTABLE.)

11. PRESIDENT FORD EXPRESSED HIS ADMIRATION FOR THE RAPID AND SUSTAINED ECONOMIC PROGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, ACCOMPLISHED IN THE FACE OF CONSIDERABLE OBSTACLES, INCLUDING THE LACK OF SUFFICIENT INDIGENOUS NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONTINUING TENSIONS IN THE AREA. PRESIDENT PARK NOTED WITH APPRECIATION THE UNITED STATES CONTRIBUTION TO KOREA'S DEVELOPMENT IN THE ECONOMIC, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL FIELDS. THEY NOTED THE IMPORTANT ROLE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY HAVE PLAYED IN KOREA'S NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC ACHIEVEMENTS. (NOTE: NO CHANGE)

12. THE TWO PRESIDENTS EXAMINED THE IMPACT OF RECENT INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS ON THE ECONOMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA. THEY AGREED THAT THE TWO COUNTRIES SHOULD CONTINUE TO FOSTER CLOSE ECONOMIC COOPERATION FOR THEIR MUTUAL BENEFIT AND THAT CONTINUED PRIVATE INVESTMENT IN KOREA BY THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER COUNTRIES IS DESIRABLE. BOTH PRESIDENTS EXPRESSED MUTUAL SATISFACTION OVER THE CONTINUING GROWTH OF SUBSTANTIAL BILATERAL TRADE RELATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN BENEFICIAL TO BOTH COUNTRIES. (NOTE: FIRST CLAUSE IS NEW KOREAN SUGGESTION TO BROADEN SCOPE OF ECONOMIC DISCUSSION.)

13. MANY COUNTRIES ARE EXPERIENCING AN INCREASING TRADE DEFICIT PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF THE INCREASED COSTS OF RAW MATERIALS AND FOOD. IT WAS AGREED THAT INTER-

NATIONAL EFFORTS SHOULD FOCUS ON DEVELOPING A DEDICATION TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FREE AND EQUITABLE ACCESS TO THE PRODUCE OF ALL COUNTRIES ON TERMS FAIR TO BOTH PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS. (NOTE: NO CHANGE)

14. PRESIDENT PARK EXPRESSED HIS PROFOUND RESPECT AND HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR THE EFFORTS BEING MADE BY
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PRESIDENT FORD TO ESTABLISH WORLD PEACE AND TO RESTORE WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER. (NOTE: THIS IS NEW KOREAN PARA INSERTED TO INDICATE ROKG SUPPORT FOR PRESIDENT FORD'S EFFORTS AT DETENTE AND IN INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC MATTERS.)

15. ON BEHALF OF THE MEMBERS OF HIS PARTY AND THE AMERICAN PEOPLE, PRESIDENT FORD EXTENDED HIS DEEPEST THANKS TO PRESIDENT PARK AND ALL PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA FOR THE WARMTH OF THEIR RECEPTION AND THE MANY COURTESIES EXTENDED TO HIM DURING THE VISIT. (NOTE: NO CHANGE)

16. PRESIDENT FORD CORDIALLY INVITED PRESIDENT PARK TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND PRESIDENT PARK ACCEPTED THE INVITATION WITH PLEASURE. (NOTE: KOREANS INSISTED INVITATION TO PRESIDENT FORD BE INCLUDED BUT DID NOT PRESS MATTER WHEN DCM SAID THIS WOULD HAVE TO BE SUBJECT FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION.)

3. WOULD APPRECIATE INSTRUCTIONS ON WHICH TO BASE RESPONSE TO KOREANS ASAP. KOREANS WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS COMMUNIQUE AGAIN MORNING NOV 20.
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